

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL NIACT IMMEDIATE

CINCUNC NIACT IMMEDIATE

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TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN AUGUST 25 PROPOSAL RE JSA

SECURITY PROCEDURES

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. WE INTEND TO TREAT THE NORTH KOREAN AUGUST 25 PROPOSAL
AS A SERIOUS ONE AND TO PURSUE IT IN WAYS WHICH WE
THINK WOULD BE VERY MUCH TO OUR ADVANTAGE.

2. AMBASSADOR SHOULD FULLY COORDINATE OUR PROPOSED
APPROACH OUTLINED BELOW WITH THE ROKG AND WITH PRESIDENT
PARK HIMSELF, IF NECESSARY. ASSUMING ROKG CONCURS, UNC
SHOULD REQUEST A FURTHER MAC MEETING FOR FRIDAY KOREAN
TIME. AT THE MEETING SENIOR MAC REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD
MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

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QUOTE: AT OUR LAST MEETING ON AUGUST 25 WE INSISTED ON

ASSURANCES FOR THE SAFETY OF UNC PERSONNEL IN THE JSA.
THIS IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF THE
ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND IS NOT SUBJECT TO COMPROMISE.
UNLESS YOUR SIDE CAN PROVIDE SUCH ASSURANCES THERE IS
NO BASIS FOR TRYING TO WORK OUT NEW PROCEDURES IN THE
JSA.

QUOTE: IF WE RECEIVE ASSURANCES ABOUT THE SAFETY OF
OUR PERSONNEL, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER YOUR PROPOSALS
OF AUGUST 25 FOR AVOIDING FUTURE CONFLICT IN THE JSA.
AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, YOUR SUGGESTION THAT BOTH SIDES
RESTRICT THEIR GUARD DUTY TO THOSE PORTIONS OF THE JSA
ON THEIR RESPECTIVE SIDES OF THE MDL WOULD INVOLVE
REMOVAL OF YOUR TWO GUARD POSTS FROM OUR SIDE OF THE LINE
SINCE THERE ARE NO UNC GUARD POSTS ON YOUR SIDE OF THE
LINE. IF YOU REMOVE THESE GUARD POSTS, WE WOULD THEN
PROPOSE THAT OUR SECRETARIES MEET TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY
SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WOULD: (A) REQUIRE
THAT BOTH SIDES RESTRICT THEIR SECURITY PERSONNEL TO
THEIR RESPECTIVE SIDES OF THE MDL; AND (B) PERMIT
FREE MOVEMENT ACROSS THE MDL OF ALL NON-SECURITY PER-
SONNEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF FREEDOM OF
ACTIVITY IN THE JSA. END QUOTE

3. WE LEAVE TO YOUR JUDGMENT THE BEST WAY TO PRESENT
OUR VIEWS TO GAIN ROKG CONCURRENCE. WE ASSUME, HOWEVER,
THAT YOU WILL STRESS THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE NORTH KOREAN
PROPOSAL AMOUNTS TO A CONCESSION TO OUR LONGSTANDING
VIEWS FIRST ADVANCED IN 1953 AND THEN AGAIN IN 1970.
IN ESSENCE THE NORTH KOREANS SEEM TO HAVE CONCLUDED
REALISTICALLY THAT WE WOULD TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION
TO MAINTAIN OUR RIGHTS IN THE JSA AND TO USE VERY
FORCEFUL MEASURES TO DEAL WITH ANY FUTURE NORTH KOREAN
CHALLENGE. TO UNDERScore OUR FIRMNESS WE HAVE EVERY
INTENTION OF MAINTAINING OUR CURRENT READINESS POSTURE
AND SPECIAL DEPLOYMENTS UNTIL WE REACH A SATISFACTORY
OUTCOME AT PANMUNJOM. YOU CAN SO INFORM PRESIDENT
PARK.

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